

AC 45401 : STATE OF CONNECTICUT
ERICA LAFFERTY, ET AL. : APPELLATE COURT
V. :
ALEX EMRIC JONES, ET AL. : JANUARY 20, 2023

**PLAINTIFFS-APPELLEES' MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE BRIEF, ON
CONSENT**

Pursuant to Practice Book § 66-1, the plaintiffs-appellees seek an extension of time to file their brief, which is currently due on January 30, 2023. The plaintiffs-appellees seek an additional thirty (30) days, up to and including March 1, 2023. The grounds for this Motion are set forth in the "Specific Facts Relied Upon" in Part II below. Counsel for the defendants-appellants consents to the granting of this Motion.

I. BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CASE

This appeal arises from a case against defendants Alex Jones and Free Speech Systems, LLC alleging invasion of privacy by false light; defamation and defamation per se; intentional infliction of emotional distress; and violation of the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act. This appeal, which was brought by the defendants-appellants on March 31, 2022, challenges the trial court's March 30, 2022 order holding defendant Alex Jones in civil contempt. The appeal was filed on April 1, 2022 by defendants Alex Jones; Infowars, LLC; Free Speech Systems, LLC; Infowars Health, LLC; and Prison Planet TV, LLC. On May 31, 2022, this Court sua sponte moved to dismiss and requested memoranda giving reasons, if any, why this appeal

(1) should not be dismissed for lack of aggrievement insofar as Infowars, LLC; Free Speech Systems, LLC; Infowars Health, LLC; and Prison Planet TV, LLC, are included as appellants on the appeal form; and (2) should be stayed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362 where nothing in the "notice and suggestion of bankruptcy," filed in this Court on May 27, 2022, indicates that the defendant Alex Jones has filed for

bankruptcy protection, and the parties who have filed for bankruptcy were not the subject of the contempt order at issue in this appeal.

5/31/22 Order on Mtn. for Supp. Memoranda. In their responsive memorandum, the defendants-appellants Infowars, LLC; Free Speech Systems, LLC; Infowars Health, LLC; and Prison Planet TV, LLC conceded they are not aggrieved.¹

Following the filing of this appeal, the underlying case went to trial against Alex Jones and Free Speech Systems, LLC and in favor of the plaintiffs on September 13, 2022.² The jury rendered a verdict in favor of the plaintiffs on October 12, 2022, awarding a total of \$965,000,000.00 in compensatory damages. The trial court (Bellis, J.) then assessed \$473,139,555.94 in punitive damages in favor of the plaintiffs on November 10, 2022. The defendants filed post-verdict motions, which were denied, and final judgment entered on December 22, 2022. The defendants appealed that judgment on December 29, 2022. That appeal is now pending as AC 46131, which is consolidated with AC 46132 and AC 46133.

II. SPECIFIC FACTS RELIED UPON

The plaintiffs-appellees request this extension of time because undersigned counsel has been occupied with work on a number of other issues and has not yet completed a draft of the appellee brief.

III. LEGAL GROUNDS UPON WHICH MOTION RELIES

This motion is filed pursuant to Practice Book § 66-1.

¹ Those parties are still, however, docketed as parties to this appeal.

² The plaintiffs' claims against Infowars Health, LLC; Infowars, LLC; and Prison Planet TV, LLC were withdrawn before trial.

IV. STATUS OF BRIEFS

The defendants-appellants' brief was filed on December 14, 2022. Counsel has begun to draft the plaintiffs-appellees' brief, but that draft is far from complete. The estimated date of completion for the brief of the plaintiffs-appellees is February 23, 2023. The plaintiffs-appellees seek until March 1, 2023 to give counsel sufficient time to revise and proof and to finalize any appendix.

V. POSITION OF OPPOSING COUNSEL

Counsel for the defendant-appellants consents to the granting of this Motion.

THE PLAINTIFFS-APPELLEES,

By /s/ Alinor C. Sterling
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CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to Rule of Appellate Procedure 62-7, I hereby certify that on this date, a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been delivered electronically to the last known email addresses of each counsel of record for whom an e-mail has been provided, as indicated below; that the foregoing document has been redacted or does not contain any names or other personal identifying information that is prohibited from disclosure by rule, statute, court order or case law; and that the foregoing document complies with all applicable rules of appellate procedure.

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